







PTO/SB/08A (10-01)

Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0651-0031
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for form 1449A/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (use as many sheets as necessary)			Complete if Known		
			Application Number	10/823,879	
Sheet	1	of	1	Filing Date	April 14, 2004
				First Named Inventor	Harrison, et al.
				Art Unit	not assigned
				Examiner Name	not assigned
				Attorney Docket Number	AB-238U3

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code ² (if known)			
[Signature]	A1	US-3,396,245	08-06-1968	Flygstad	_____
	A2	US-4,291,203	09-22-1981	Bellafore	_____
	A3	US-4,696,287	09-29-1987	Hortman, et al.	_____
	A4	US-4,727,582	02-23-1988	de Vries, et al.	_____
	A5	US-5,086,464	02-04-1992	Groppe	_____
	A6	US-5,535,282	07-09-1996	Luca	_____
	A7*	US-5,701,348	12-23-1997	Shennib, et al.	_____
	A8	US-5,757,933	05-26-1998	Preves, et al.	_____
	A9	US-5,782,744	07-21-1998	Money	_____
	A10	US-5,790,672	08-04-1998	Klostermeir	_____
	A11	US-5,814,095	09-29-1998	Muller, et al.	_____
	A12	US-5,824,022	10-20-1998	Zilberman, et al.	_____
	A13	US-5,906,635	05-25-1999	Maniglia	_____
	A14	US-6,161,046	12-12-2000	Maniglia, et al.	_____
	A15	US-6,216,040	04-10-2001	Harrison	_____
	A16	US-6,259,951	07-10-2001	Kuzma, et al.	_____
	A17	US-6,272,382	08-07-2001	Faltys, et al.	_____
	A18	US-6,308,101	10-23-2001	Faltys, et al.	_____

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS								
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document			Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	
		Country Code ²	-Number ²	-Kind Code ³ (if known)				
	A19*	WO-01/56521-A1			08-09-2001	Zierhofer, et al.		
	A20*	DE-3502178-A1			08-29-1985	Phonak, AG		

Examiner Signature	[Signature]	Date Considered	12/11/05
-----------------------	-------------	--------------------	----------

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO:

Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.